

NDIS ESSENTIALS

AN NDIS INTRODUCTION



COMMUNITY 3SIX5

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FORWARD

By understanding how the NDIS works and what services are available, individuals and families can access the support they need to achieve their goals and live their best lives. Your NDIS essentials PDF book serves as an important resource in this regard, providing valuable information and insights that can help readers navigate the complexities of the NDIS and make informed decisions about their care and support needs.



WHAT IS THE NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a government-funded scheme designed to provide support and services for people with permanent and significant disability in Australia. The program aims to help these individuals achieve their goals, improve their health and wellbeing, and participate fully in their communities.

The essentials:

- 1. Eligibility:** To be eligible for the NDIS, you must have a permanent and significant disability that impacts your ability to complete everyday tasks or participate in the community. You must also be an Australian citizen or resident and under the age of 65.
- 2. Planning and assessment:** Once you are deemed eligible, you will work with a planner to develop a plan that outlines your goals, needs and support requirements. This plan is reviewed annually to ensure it continues to meet your changing needs.
- 3. Funding:** The NDIS provides funding to eligible participants to purchase the supports and services outlined in their plan. This funding is based on your individual needs and goals and can cover a range of supports including assistive technology, personal care, therapy services, and more.
- 4. Service providers:** Participants can choose their own service providers, including organizations and individuals who are registered with the NDIS. These providers deliver services and support that align with the participant's plan and goals.
- 5. Choice and control:** The NDIS is designed to give participants more choice and control over the services and supports they receive. This means they can decide which providers they work with, the types of services they receive, and how they manage their plan.

Overall, the NDIS aims to empower people with disabilities to live more independent, fulfilling lives by providing access to the personalized supports and services they need to achieve their goals.

TYPES OF FUNDING

There are several different types of NDIS funding, each designed to meet the unique needs and goals of participants. Here are some of the most common types of funding available through the NDIS:

1. Core funding: This is the most flexible type of NDIS funding and can be used for a wide range of supports and services that help you with your day-to-day activities. Core funding includes things like personal care, transport, and assistance with household tasks.

2. Capital funding: This type of funding is specifically for the purchase of assistive technology and other capital items that will help you live more independently. Examples of capital items might include mobility aids, communication devices, or home modifications.

3. Capacity building funding: This funding is designed to help build your skills and abilities so that you can achieve your goals and live more independently over time. Examples of capacity building supports might include therapy services, skills training, or community participation programs.

4. Support coordination funding: This funding is specifically for the engagement of a support coordinator, who will work with you to develop and implement your plan, and help you navigate the NDIS system.

It's worth noting that the specific funding you receive will depend on your individual needs and goals, as outlined in your NDIS plan. Your plan will be developed in consultation with you and your NDIS planner and will be reviewed regularly to ensure it continues to meet your changing needs.

KEY NDIS CONCEPTS

There are several key concepts that are important to understand when it comes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). These include:

1. Person-centeredness: The NDIS is designed to be person-centered, meaning that it focuses on the individual needs and goals of each participant. This means that your plan is tailored specifically to your unique circumstances and takes into account your preferences and priorities.

2. Choice and control: Another important concept of the NDIS is choice and control. This means that you have the ability to choose the supports and services that work best for you and have control over how your funding is spent.

3. Early intervention: The NDIS also places a strong emphasis on early intervention, which means providing support as early as possible to help prevent or reduce the impact of disability on your life. This can include things like therapy services, assistive technology, or other supports.

4. Social and economic participation: Finally, the NDIS recognizes that people with disability have a right to full participation in society, both socially and economically. This means that your plan may include funding for things like education, training, or support to help you find and maintain employment.

Overall, the NDIS is designed to support people with disability to live their best lives, with access to the supports and services they need to achieve their goals and participate fully in their communities.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a program run by the Australian Government that provides support and services to people with disabilities. There are several key players involved in the NDIS, including:

1. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) - This is the government organization responsible for implementing and managing the NDIS. The NDIA is responsible for assessing people's eligibility for the NDIS, developing individualized plans for each participant, and managing funding for supports and services.

2. Participants - These are the people with disabilities who are eligible for the NDIS. Participants play a central role in the NDIS, as the program is designed to support their needs and goals.

3. Families and Carers - Family members and/or carers of participants also play an important role in the NDIS. They can provide valuable input into the development of individualized plans and can help participants access and make use of the supports and services available through the program.

4. Service Providers - There are numerous service providers involved in the NDIS, including disability support workers, therapists, and other health professionals. These providers deliver services and supports to NDIS participants, and are funded through the program.

5. Advocacy Groups - Advocacy groups represent the interests of people with disabilities and work to ensure that their rights and needs are taken into account in the development and implementation of the NDIS.

6. State and Territory Governments - State and territory governments also play a role in the NDIS, particularly in providing ongoing support to participants who require specialist disability services beyond what is covered under the NDIS.

COMPLIANCE

To be NDIS compliant, there are several key points that need to be considered. Here are some of the main points:

1. Understand the NDIS Framework - It's important to have a good understanding of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) framework and how it operates, including the goals and objectives of the program and the eligibility criteria for participants.

2. Develop Individualized Plans - As an NDIS participant, it's important to work with your service provider to develop an individualized plan that outlines your specific needs and goals. The plan should identify the supports and services you require to achieve your goals, as well as any funding that you may be eligible for under the NDIS.

3. Communicate Effectively - Effective communication is key to successfully navigating the NDIS. This means being open and honest about your needs and goals, as well as asking questions and seeking clarification when needed. It's also important to communicate regularly with your service provider and other stakeholders involved in your care.

4. Access Appropriate Services - To be NDIS compliant, it's important to access appropriate services and supports that meet your specific needs. This may involve working with a range of service providers, including disability support workers, therapists, and other health professionals.

5. Engage with Advocacy Groups - Advocacy groups can provide valuable support and assistance in navigating the NDIS, advocating for your rights and needs, and ensuring that your voice is heard in the development and implementation of the program.

6. Comply with Regulations and Standards - Finally, to be NDIS compliant, it's important to comply with all relevant regulations and standards, including those related to quality of care, safety, and privacy. This will help to ensure that you receive high-quality services and supports that meet your needs and goals.

KEY TERMS

There are several key terms and concepts that are used within the NDIS that can be helpful to understand. Some of these include:

- 1. Disability** - In the context of the NDIS, disability refers to a broad range of physical, intellectual, sensory, and psychosocial impairments that may impact a person's ability to participate fully in society.
- 2. Participant** - A participant is someone who is eligible for support through the NDIS. This may include people with a disability, their families, and carers.
- 3. Plan** - A plan is a document developed by the NDIS that outlines the supports and services that a participant will receive. It is developed in consultation with the participant and their support network and is reviewed regularly to ensure that it continues to meet the participant's needs and goals.
- 4. Provider** - A provider is a person or organisation that delivers services and supports to NDIS participants. Providers must be registered with the NDIS and comply with certain standards and regulations.
- 5. Support category** - The NDIS uses a categorisation system to organise the types of supports and services that can be accessed through the program. These categories include things like access and inclusion, daily living, employment, and community participation.
- 6. Service agreement** - A service agreement is a contract between a participant and their service provider that outlines the terms of their engagement, including the services to be provided, the cost, and the duration of the agreement.
- 7. Review** - Reviews are a regular part of the NDIS process and are conducted to assess whether a participant's plan is still meeting their needs and goals. Reviews may result in changes to the plan and are generally conducted on an annual basis.

Understanding these and other key terms and concepts can be helpful in navigating the NDIS and accessing the supports and services that you need. If you have any questions or

concerns, it's always a good idea to reach out to your service provider or an advocacy group for assistance.

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

To register for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), there are a few steps you need to follow. Firstly, you must be eligible to participate in the scheme, which requires that you have a permanent disability that significantly impacts your ability to carry out everyday activities.

Once you have established your eligibility, you can then contact the NDIS directly to begin the registration process. You will need to provide some basic personal and medical information, as well as details about your current support needs and goals.

From there, the NDIS will assess your application and determine whether you meet the criteria for inclusion in the scheme. If you are approved, you will be assigned a planner who will work with you to develop a personalized plan outlining your support needs and goals.

You can then use this plan to access the supports and services that you need to live a more independent and fulfilling life. It's important to remember that the NDIS is a complex program, and there may be a range of different options and providers available to you. With some guidance and support, however, you can navigate the system and access the supports that you need to thrive.

REGISTERING A BUSINESS

Setting up an NDIS business can be a complex process, but it is important to follow the necessary steps to ensure that your business is legally compliant and able to provide quality services to clients. Here are some steps to consider when setting up an NDIS business:

1. Do your research: Before diving into setting up an NDIS business, it is important to do your research to understand the requirements and regulations involved. This includes the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission), which is responsible for regulating NDIS providers and ensuring that they meet certain standards.

2. Choose your business structure: Decide on the structure of your business, whether it be a sole trader, partnership, company or trust. This will depend on your individual circumstances and goals.

3. Develop a business plan: Create a comprehensive business plan that outlines your goals, target market, services, pricing, marketing strategies, and financial projections. This will help you to stay focused and outline the steps required to achieve success.

4. Register with the NDIS Commission: Register your business with the NDIS Commission to become a registered provider. This involves completing an application form, providing evidence of compliance with the NDIS Practice Standards, and undergoing an audit.

5. Obtain insurance: Ensure that you have appropriate insurance coverage for your business, including public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

6. Recruit staff: If necessary, recruit staff that have the required qualifications and experience to provide NDIS services. Ensure that they have undergone the necessary checks, such as police checks and working with children checks.

7. Implement quality and safety systems: Implement quality and safety systems to meet the NDIS Practice Standards, which include policies and procedures for things like risk management, incident reporting, and complaints management.

8. Market your business: Develop a marketing plan to promote your business and attract new clients. This may involve creating a website, social media pages, and advertising through various channels.

By following these steps and seeking professional advice where necessary, you can set up a NDIS business that is compliant with regulations and provides quality services to clients.